AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A body armor <u>system</u> for protecting a user from penetration, comprising:
 - a front protective section for overlying the chest region of the user;
 - a rear protective section for overlying the back of the user;
- a pair of flexible right and left shoulder straps fastened to right and left shoulder regions, respectively, of the rear section, wherein the straps extend over the right and left shoulders of the user for attachment to corresponding right and left portions of the front section;

an outershell, which outershell includes a shoulder area;

wherein the shoulder straps are at least partially hidden within the outershell shoulder area, wherein the shoulder straps include complete adjustability within an the outer shell outershell shoulder so as to be hidden within the outer shell shoulder area, and wherein each of the shoulder strap straps is directly attached to a ballistic panel by stitching through the ballistic panel and the shoulder strap; and

wherein a stabilizer tab is directly sewn to the ballistic panel so as to stabilize the ballistic panel against the user's body.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The body armor for protecting a user from penetration system of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a hidden zipper in the front <u>protective</u> section where the ballistic panel is inserted.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The body armor for protecting a user from penetration system of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a slit in a bottom of the front protective section where the ballistic panel is inserted.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The body armor for protecting a user from penetration system of claim 1, further comprising:

a cumber band attached to an inside of the $\frac{\text{outershall}}{\text{outershell}}$ to provide additional security of $\underline{\text{to}}$ the rear section.

5. (Currently Amended) The body armor for protecting a user from penetration system of claim 1, further comprising:

the front protective section having substantially no seams or attachment points.